

**MINUTES  
MACOMB COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
MAY 10, 2006**

President Perna began the meeting at 7:30 a.m. held at Freedom Hill County Park.

**ROLL CALL**

**In Attendance:**

James M. Perna, President  
Gasper Salerno, Vice-President  
Dino F. Bucci Jr., Sgt. At Arms  
Phillip A. DiMaria  
Timothy M. Malone  
Gene Schabath, Rep. Anthony Marrocco  
Marvin E. Sauger  
Betty Slinde

**Excused/Absent:**

Ann E. Klein, Secretary, excused  
Anthony Lipinski, excused  
Thomas L. Raymus, excused

**Others Present:**

Anthony G. Casasanta, Sharon Quinn and David Humbyrd, Parks & Recreation;  
Jill Smith of Corporation Counsel; Tony Mannino, St. Ronald's Church

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**A MOTION BY MR. BUCCI, SUPPORTED BY MR. SAUGER WAS MADE APPROVING THE AGENDA WITH ADDITIONS UNDER OLD BUSINESS, 7D. ST. RONALD'S CHURCH REQUEST AND 7E. SUMMER BROCHURE. MOTION CARRIED.**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A MOTION BY MS. SLINDE, SUPPORTED BY MR. BUCCI WAS MADE APPROVING THE APRIL 3<sup>RD</sup> MINUTES AND CORRECTIONS TO APRIL 12<sup>TH</sup> MINUTES FOR THE RECORD TO INCLUDE FURTHER COMMENTS MADE ON DONATIONS FOR THE 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY FIREWORKS AND ON THE CONTRACT FOR THE CABARET SHOW. MOTION CARRIED.**

**BUDGET REPORT**

Mr. Casasanta reported there were no major line items to report other than the Park is receiving revenues for ground rentals and parking.

**A MOTION BY MS. SLINDE, SUPPORTED BY MR. BUCCI WAS MADE TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE BUDGET REPORT. MOTION CARRIED.**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Mr. Casasanta referred to the letter from Ms. Brooks Young, Executive Director of Touching Heart Transitional Home requesting a reservation of the hall on August 26, 2006 for a pageant benefiting domestic violence victims.

Mr. Perna stated to receive and file correspondence.

## OLD BUSINESS

### July 4<sup>th</sup> Fireworks

Mr. Casasanta stated \$500 was raised for fireworks and he'll have to submit a contract for a \$10,500 fireworks display. Mr. Schabath stated he would help with a press release to seek contributions. Mr. Casasanta indicated he will be filing paperwork with Zambelli this week and will continue to work on this.

### Air Force Band of Flight – July 5, 2006

Mr. Casasanta stated he made contact with the Air Force organization to make accommodations on the park grounds for the band to perform, as he is uncertain if the amphitheater is available July 5th.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Perna stated we should get a commitment in writing from Hillside, if the amphitheater is available, as well as, restrooms and lighting for this event.

Further discussion ensued relative to vending and marketing of this event.

Ms. Slinde asked what time this event starts. Mr. Casasanta responded it begins at 6:30 p.m.

### Hillside Update

Mr. Perna asked Corporation Counsel for an update of the litigation between Hillside and the County. Jill Smith of Corporation Counsel responded the County filed a response on Monday, May 8<sup>th</sup>.

### St. Ronald's Church Request for Parking Adjustment

Mr. Mannino requested a weekend parking pass of \$6.00 good for the weekend by those wishing to attend each day of the festival.

Mr. Casasanta asked Mr. Mannino to clarify if the church would seek a rebate. Mr. Mannino responded they're asking for a parking fee of \$6.00 with no rebate.

Mr. Perna expressed concerns that the County Park could lose two-thirds revenue and this could set a precedence with other organizations.

A discussion ensued.

### **MOTION BY MR. DIMARIA, SUPPORTED BY MR. SCHABATH TO RESCIND 2006 PARKING RATES BACK TO 2005 PARKING RATES.**

Mr. DiMaria cited letters of hardships from residents over parking fees. Mr. Schabath conveyed similar sentiments.

Mr. DiMaria explained his motion covers all events irrespective of St. Ronald's request.

Mr. Sauger and Mr. Bucci expressed concern that these considerations should have been taken into account a few months ago when this topic was brought up and voted on in favor of raising parking fees.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO RESCIND 2006 PARKING INCREASE AND REVERT TO 2005 RATES**

	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
BUCCI	X	
DIMARIA	X	
RAYMUS	absent	
KLEIN	absent	
LIPINSKI	absent	
MALONE	X	
SCHABATH	X	
PERNA	X	
SALERNO	X	
SAUGER	X	
SLINDE	X	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>	

**MOTION PASSED.**

Mr. Malone stated that he sympathized with St. Ronald however it is in the best interest of the County that the Commission not honor their request. He further stated it would be difficult to grant future requests of this nature.

Mr. Salerno suggested receiving and filing St. Ronald's request as the Commission just voted now to revert back to 2005 parking fees.

Mr. Mannino withdrew his request of a \$6.00 weekend parking fee for their festival.

2006 Summer Brochure

Tracey Moro of Studio Communications distributed the edited 2006 Parks summer brochure and stated she would be going to print and distributing them through departments, libraries and businesses around the county. Ms. Moro described the brochure will be a tri-fold, blue ink on white paper and suggested printing 20,000 at a cost of \$800.

Mr. DiMaria asked for a distribution plan and a list to adequately circulate our brochures in order to attract people who are not familiar with our event.

Further discussion ensued.

**MOTION BY MR. SALERNO, SUPPORTED BY MR. SCHABATH WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE PRINTING OF 20,000 COPIES OF THE 2006 SUMMER FUN BROCHURE. MOTION CARRIED.**

Mr. Salerno suggested we do a survey to find out where people are coming from when attending our Park.

Mr. Malone suggested a drop box for survey to be filled out and collected at the Park.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Traffic Control Counters

Mr. Casasanta met with Traffic & Safety Control System Inc. He stated this particular package with installation would cost \$11, 729 and include four directional loop detectors with harness and battery operated portable counters.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. DiMaria asked if Mr. Casasanta if he thought there is a real need for traffic control counters.

Freedom Hill Rental Agreements

Mr. Casasanta explained the three different reservation and contract forms utilized for Park events. Ms. Smith of Corporation Counsel stated the agreement/contract forms have been looked over by their office.

OTHER

Mr. Schabath asked if more details could be available in minutes and also inquired about high school graduations.

Mr. Casasanta responded he is in the process of finding out further details on these events and requesting written communication for a list of graduation events planned at the amphitheater.

Discussion ensued on how to better obtain information concerning any events that may be held at the amphitheater this summer season.

Mr. Casasanta expressed concern as to what the impact will be to our Park Staff and expenses involved with these graduation commencements.

ADJOURNMENT

**A MOTION BY MR. SAUGER, SUPPORTED BY MR. SALERNO WAS MADE TO ADJOURN THE COMMISSION MEETING. MOTION CARRIED.**

President Perna adjourned the Parks & Recreation Commission meeting at 8:35 a.m.

Sincerely,

Ann E. Klein, Secretary  
Macomb County Parks & Recreation Commission

AEK/sq